

California Department of Fish & Game
Pintail Hunting Regulations Survey

In March, the California Department of Fish & Game will be attending the Pacific Flyway Council meeting. During this meeting, discussions will occur with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on the future of pintail hunting regulations. USFWS has proposed to replace the current harvest strategy on pintails with a strategy based on specified management objectives. The USFWS has described several potential management objectives:

- Maximize the pintail population
- Sustain a specific pintail population size
- Maximize the sustainable harvest of pintail
- Minimize the regulatory burden on hunters (confusing or inconsistent regulations)
- Minimize closed or partial seasons (short pintail seasons within duck seasons)
- Encourage hunter participation
- Improve bird watching and other non-hunting activities

The USFWS believes that these are competing objectives and cannot all be perfectly achieved. Currently, they are proposing a way to consider these competing objectives but the relative importance of those objectives to hunters in California is not known. The USFWS has provided a wide range of available harvest regulation options to balance these competing objectives. The Department of Fish and Game is seeking public input to assist in the decision-making process. Please see the link below to complete an online survey to assist the Department in this process. Thank you for your time.

Pintail Survey Link: www.surveymonkey.com/s/pintailsurvey